



**Minutes of Meeting  
CITIZENS' EFFICIENCY COMMISSION  
November 18, 2013**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Citizens' Efficiency Commissioners**

|   |                |   |                  |
|---|----------------|---|------------------|
| X | Jeff Adkisson  |   | Frank McNeil     |
| X | Daniel Cadigan | X | Mike Murphy      |
|   | Jim Cimarossa  | X | Drinda O'Connor  |
| X | Josh Collins   |   | Ken Page         |
| X | Jerry Crabtree | X | Robert Plunk     |
| X | Gary Crompton  | X | Kent Redfield    |
| X | James Donelan  |   | J. D. Sudeth     |
| X | Kevin Dorsey   | X | Kenley Wade, Sr. |
| X | Cliff Erwin    | X | Joan Walters     |
| X | Bob Gray       | X | Robert Wesley    |
| X | Karen Hasara   |   |                  |
| X | Marilyn Kushak |   |                  |

**Others**

Norm Sims- SSCRPC  
Jeff Fulgenzi- SSCRPC  
Amy Uden- SSCRPC  
Richard Treat- SCTOA

Jim Leach- WMAY  
Lauren Leone-Cross- SJR  
Paul Palazzolo- Sangamon County Auditor

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Karen Hasara called the meeting of the Citizens' Efficiency Commission to order and welcomed commissioners and guests.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Hasara asked for approval of the October minutes. Ms. Joan Walters made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Kevin Dorsey seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

**III. INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Hasara first reported on the Regional Leadership Council. Since the last meeting with the CEC, at which the RLC had adopted bylaws and appointed officers, the executive group of that body has set up a meeting to continue the efforts. Chair Hasara indicated that meeting would be held on November 19<sup>th</sup>, and expressed encouragement at their enthusiasm to move forward.

Mr. Norm Sims provided an update on the final report. SSCRPC has begun assembling the report, and will be working with the Commissioners' comments on themes to complete it. Chair Hasara indicated that she and SSCRPC staff had discussed follow-on opportunities for the CEC, but that no conclusions had yet been reached on this point. She indicated that the County Board had expressed willingness to consider placing a referendum on the ballot on this point. Mr. Bob Wesley



inquired regarding funding for staff work for any continuing group, and Chair Hasara indicated that decisions had not yet been reached on this matter. Chair Hasara indicated another CEC meeting was likely to occur in early December to finalize decisions on this matter.

Mr. Sims took the opportunity during staff comments to thank the CEC for all of its hard work. He expressed that it has been a pleasure for SSCRPC staff to work with the group, and indicated that it has been an interesting and rewarding experience.

#### **IV. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:**

##### **Administrative, Management, and Budget Committee:**

Committee Chair Marilyn Kushak provided the final update on her committee's activities. First, the committee members approved their minutes from the last committee meeting, with Dr. Kent Redfield moving for approval, and Mr. Dan Cadigan seconding the motion.

Next, Ms. Kushak presented the committee's final recommendation on cooperative administration, human resource management, and back office functions. She noted that the key point of the recommendation include that all local governments perform these administrative functions, but do not always consider the costs of these support services. She noted that there are substantial opportunity costs associated with this pattern.

Ms. Kushak presented the following recommendation and moved for its approval:

*The CEC recommends that local governments cooperatively review opportunities for collaborative administrative functions, improved financial management, and automated and shared payroll and accounts payable systems.*

Ms. Drinda O'Connor seconded the motion. The recommendation was approved unanimously. Ms. Kushak thanked the members of the committee for their efforts on this and all of their recommendations.

There will be no further meetings of this committee.

##### **Community Development Committee:**

Committee Chair Erwin called for a motion to approve his committee's minutes from the last two meetings. Mr. Jeff Adkisson moved approval, with Dr. Kevin Dorsey seconding. The minutes were approved.

Mr. Erwin also presented his committee's last recommendation, which described opportunities to improve educational resources available to students through the use of shared online curriculum. After some minor factual questions from other commissioners, he moved to approve the recommendation as follows:

*The CEC recommends that all local school districts consider cooperatively utilizing online curriculum packages like those already in use in some districts, in order to reduce costs and expand educational opportunities.*

After a brief discussion, Mr. Adkisson seconded the motion, and the recommendation was approved. Mr. Erwin thanks the members of his committee for their dedication throughout the CEC's work.

There will be no further meetings of this committee.

#### **Public Works Committee:**

Committee Chair Jim Donelan first moved to approve the minutes from is committee's last meeting. Mr. Josh Collins seconded this motion, and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Donelan then described his committee's recommendation related to a phased transfer of the City of Springfield's sanitary sewers to the SMSD, along with an appropriate examination of revenue needs. He indicated his committee had met with numerous officials from both jurisdictions. He presented the recommendation as follows, and moved its approval:

*The CEC recommends that ownership, operation, and maintenance of the City of Springfield's sewer system be transferred to the Springfield Metro Sanitary District (SMSD) through a planned, phased transfer of segments that are newly built, are brought up to an established standard of repair, or are transferred with accompanying designated revenues needed to reach such a standard.*

*The CEC recognizes that this is an interim step in pursuit of a larger regional sewer plan, and therefore further recommends that a group be convened immediately to pursue implementation of this negotiated transfer and to develop a long-term plan for ameliorating negative effects on public and private property of the deteriorating sewer system. The CEC recommends that this group consider creating a storm water utility and take substantive steps to address revenue shortfalls for regional sewer infrastructure.*

Ms. Joan Walters seconded the motion. A brief discussion of the recommendation followed. Mr. Collins inquired about what a storm water utility is, and Mr. Donelan indicated that this portion of the recommendation had developed out of the last meeting with the City, in which the committee learned more about storm water management. A storm water utility is one consideration among many options for generating revenue related to the storm water system of sewers. Mr. Sims noted that the sanitary and storm sewers are two distinct systems, but that both should play a role in the considerations of the CEC's recommended cooperative group examining these issues, particularly in light of revenue and maintenance shortfalls.

Following his presentation, Mr. Donelan moved that the recommendation be approved. Ms. Walters seconded the motion, and the recommendation was approved unanimously. Mr. Donelan also thanked his committee for its hard work.

There will be no further meetings of this committee.

### **Public Safety Committee:**

Committee Chair Bob Gray first asked for a motion to approve his committee's minutes from its last meeting. Dr. Redfield moved approval. Mr. Robert Plunk seconded, and the committee approved the minutes.

Mr. Gray then presented his committee's recommendation on Fire Protection and EMS services. He noted that the document takes a regional approach to providing effective services. While the committee noted some high cost drivers in the City of Springfield that merit future review, it also focused on determining ways that costs can be better allocated across the region to improve services. The document provides substantive data in support of the fact that many FPDs have low capacity, and recommends that the rural FPDs combine into four districts, with some of the pass-through FPDs described in the CEC's earlier recommendation contracting with these districts rather than the City of Springfield. Mr. Wesley commented that he is very supportive of this recommendation because it develops a mechanism for improving the standards for service throughout the region. After some additional discussion of the data presented in the document by SSCRPC staff, Mr. Gray moved approval of the following recommendation:

*The CEC recommends that fire protection districts and departments in the region pursue consolidation and resource reallocation toward the creation of four districts, each with one to two Fire/EMS stations, with response times strengthened through a stipend or on-call arrangement.*

*The CEC further recommends that the City of Springfield engage in a comprehensive program review in order to address budgetary needs resulting from potential reallocations and explore cost drivers described throughout this recommendation.*

*If necessary, the CEC recommends that a targeted action team be created for the purpose of pursuing and coordinating these efforts.*

Mr. Wesley seconded the motion, and the recommendation was unanimously approved.

Mr. Gray then asked Mr. Mike Murphy to present the committee's recommendation related to Law Enforcement in Sangamon County. Mr. Murphy noted that the CEC had spent many hours interviewing officials, reviewing data, and compiling information for this recommendation, which represents a first step toward greater regional cooperation. He indicated the committee had explored the smaller municipal forces as well as cooperation between the Springfield Police Department and Sangamon County Sheriff's Office. He indicated that a key point was that the current way of managing policing is unlikely to be sustainable in the long term. The CEC's recommendation therefore provides a five-pronged approach to generating cost savings.

Mr. Wesley indicated that the fifth part of the recommendation should be amended to include the phrase “and the CEC or any follow-on group of the CEC” after “Regional Leadership Council” to ensure that all the research conducted by the committee on this issue would not be lost. He moved approval of such an amendment, which Mr. Donelan seconded. The Commission approved this amendment.

Mr. Murphy then moved that the recommendation be approved as amended, in the following form:

*The CEC recommends that local leaders and law enforcement agencies pursue increased regionalization of law enforcement functions by undertaking the following actions:*

- 1) Expand technological improvements to eliminate dated, hand-written records processes and duplication of labor.*
- 2) Create a shared regional task force for highly specialized functions including training, crime scene investigation, major cases, tactical forces, and similar activities.*
- 3) Create shared divisions for regional administrative support, records, and evidence, potentially adding other support functions.*
- 4) Consolidate select municipal departments into combined local departments to manage scarce resources.*
- 5) Engage the services of an independent consultant, working in conjunction with the Regional Leadership Council and the CEC or any follow-on group of the CEC, to conduct a thorough analysis of SPD-SCSO consolidation that builds upon the CEC's existing work.*

Mr. Gray seconded this motion, and the recommendation was approved. Mr. Gray thanked members of his committee for all of their work on these issues.

There will be no further meetings of this committee.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no further old business.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Hasara noted that the CEC should stay tuned for future meetings related to the final report and follow-on efforts. She also indicated that the final report would likely be completed in December or January, and would be the topic of the Citizen's Club meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>. She again thanked all the Commissioners and SSCRPC staff. Mr. Fulgenzi and Ms. Uden expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to engage in the CEC's work.



**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Hasara asked for public comment. There was none.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further comments, Chair Hasara called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Murphy made the motion with Mr. Donelan seconding. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Uden  
Acting as Recording Secretary